(c) The steps taken to control pollution from the cement factories include:

—Emission limits for cement manufacturing units have been prescribed;

—A time bound programme for installation of effective air pollution control equipment (electrostatic precipitator) has been evolved; and

—The units have been directed to instal chimneys of at least 30 metres height for dispersion of pollutants.

Improvements in postal services

♦149. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEH-TA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total strength of postal delivery personnel in 1983, 1984. 1985 and 1986 so far;

(b) what was the volume of postal traffic handled by them during the same period;

(c) whether it is a fact that the post offices are not having adequate staff to cope with the increased postal traffic and volume of work in a majority of post offices; if so, what steps are being contemplated to improve the postal services;

(d) if the answer to part (c) above be in the negative, what are the reasons for deterioration in postal services, particularly the delayed deliveries; and

(e) whether Government are considering to provide mopeds or other two wheeler vehicles to the postal delivery staff to enable them to render prompt and effective service; if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) The total strength of the delivery personnel (Postmen and extra Departmental Delivery Agents) and the volume of main handled during these years was as under:—

Year	No. of Personnel	Traffic handled
1983.	1,39,500	1085 crores
1984.	1,42,100	1138
1985.	1,43,300	1198
1986.	1,41,600	1211

(c) No, Sir. Generally there is no shortage of delivery staff in post offices. As may be seen from the figures of 1983, 1984 and 1985, additional delivery staff have been provided to meet the increased volume mail. However, in 1986, matching provision could not be made due to the existing ban orders on creation of posts Now, orders relaxing the ban. to the extent of creation of posts arising due to promotion, retirement, death, resignation dismissal/ removal or deputation etc. have been issued, and the position is expected to improve.

(d) Delay in delivery of mails does not generally occur due to shortage of delivery staff.

(e) There is no proposal for providing mopeds or any other fast mode of conveyance to the postal staff. However, bicycles are already in use by some of the delivery staff.

गैर-हिन्दी भाषी क्षेत्रों में प्रादेशिक समाचारों का हिन्दी में प्रसारण

*150. **डा० रत्नाकर पाण्डेय :** क्या **सूचना और प्रसारण** मंत्र: यह बताने का कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गैर-हिन्दी भाषी क्षेत्रों में